

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 IO-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06

ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 EB-07 OES-03 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 NSC-05 CG-00 DOTE-00 INT-05 NSF-01 SMI-01 /060 W

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R 082140Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2618

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 6042

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, OCON, UNESCO, AR, US

SUBJECT: IOC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

REF: PARIS 22246

1. RETIRED REAR ADMIRAL JOSE A. ALVAREZ IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THIS EMBASSY. HE HAD A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN THE ARGENTINE NAVY, ESPECIALLY IN THE GYDROGRAPHIC SERVICE (WHICH HE HEADED), CULMINATING WITH HIS ASSIGNMENT TO WASHINGTON AS NAVAL ATTACHE. HE HAS ANTARCTIC EXPERIENCE INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN AT LEAST ONE U.S.-LED EXPEDITION, FOR WHICH I HAD THE PLEASURE OF PRESENTING HIM AN ANTARCTIC SERVICE MEDAL. IN WASHINGTON, HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN COMPLETING THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH RESULTED IN THE JOINT U.S.-ARGENTINA RESEARCH PROGRAM USING THE R.V. ISLAS ORCASAS (EX-ELTEANIN).

2. ADM. ALVAREZ STRIKES US AS A SERIOUS, COMPETENT MAN WITH GOOD BACKGROUND AND KNOWLEDGE OF OCEANOGRAPHIC PROGRAMS WELL BEYOND ARGENTINA'S OWN AREA OF INTEREST. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND HAS MANY FRIENDS IN U.S. OCEANOGRAPHIC CIRCLES, BOTH OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE. HE STUDIED OCEANOGRAPHY AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY,

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CLEARLY ONE OF OUR LEADING SCHOOLS IN THIS FIELD.

3. WHILE WE SUPPOSE U.S. MAY HAVE TO SUPPORT WHOMEVER LATAM CAUCUS PROPOSES, THERE COULD BE GOOD REASON TO SUPPORT ARGENTINE CANDIDACY IN ANY CASE ON BASIS OF OUR OCEANOGRAPHIC INTERESTS IN ISOS, THE ANTARCTIC, AND KEY ROLE ARGENTINA PLAYS WITH US IN OCEANOGRAPHY (ISLAS ORCADAS, HOME POST FOR HERO, ETC.) SUCH A POSSIBILITY APPEARS ALL THE MORE LOGICAL NOW THAT GOA HAS PROPOSED A MAN WHO IN OUR VIEW IS AN EXCELLENT CANDIDATE.

HILL

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